

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 11 January 2005. Responsive to the Office Action, Claims 1-3 have been amended for further prosecution. It is believed that with such amendment of Claims, there is a further clarification of their recitations.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Hung reference. The Examiner also rejected Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hung in view of the McGhee reference. In setting forth this rejection, the Examiner cited McGhee for disclosing the use of light emitting diodes as a light source, and concluded that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have substituted Hung's luminous elements with light emitting diodes.

As Claim 1 now more clearly recites, Applicant's illuminating device is one which includes among its combination of features a coil assembly disposed with a casing to be rotatable about a wheel axle, and a "collar having a disk-shaped surface and a circular magnet coupled to protrude axially therefrom." This circular magnet "extend[s] concentrically into the coil assembly," such that it is "rotatably enclos[ed]" by the coil assembly. As newly-amended independent Claim 1 also now more clearly recites, "the disk-shaped surface extend[s] radially

outward from the circular magnet for shielding a side periphery of the coil assembly.”

The full combination of these and other features now more clearly recited by Applicant’s newly-amended Claims is nowhere disclosed by the cited references. Note, for instance, that most of the embodiments disclosed by Hung do not even employ a “circular magnet;” rather, they employ a plurality of discrete magnets 63 arranged about the magnet holder 6. While Hung does disclose two embodiments which employ a magnet ring 101, 102 (in the embodiments of Figs. 16 and 18), Hung nowhere even suggests such magnet ring to be “coupled to protrude axially” from “a disk-shaped surface” of its collar, as Claim 1 now more clearly recites. To the contrary, each magnet ring 101, 102 is clearly configured to be a band-type structure either “bonded around an inner side of the circumferential edge 66 of the magnet holder 6,” (column 5; lines 37-38) or otherwise “bonded around” the outside of that “circumferential edge 66 of the magnet holder 6,” (column 5; lines 64-65).

In the one embodiment of Hung in which the magnet ring 102 is disposed inside the winding reel 2, the magnet holder 6 is clearly shown to form a central hub-type structure. Hung nowhere teaches for such embodiment any “disk-shaped surface” for a magnet-holding collar which “extend[s] radially outward from the circular magnet for shielding a side periphery of the coil assembly” with which the magnet interacts, as Claim 1 also now more clearly recites. Indeed, Hung’s

specification makes clear that this embodiment is configured as such, to in part render certain structural elements “not needed and therefore omitted,” (column 5; lines 44-45). Hung would hardly even permit, much less suggest the extensive modification in structure it would take to provide the features of Applicant’s illuminating device, as now more clearly recited by Claim 1.

Given such deficient teachings of the primarily-cited Hung reference, the teachings of the McGhee reference are found to be quite ineffectual to the present patentability analysis. In this regard, McGhee discloses a visibility enhancement device for a bicycle whose structural features depart considerably from those recited by Claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the Hung and McGhee references, even when considered together, fail to disclose the unique combination of elements now more clearly recited by Applicant’s pending Claims for the purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application.

Each of the Claims 2 and 3 is amended hereby to simply remove readily apparent grammatic/idiomatic errors.

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Reply to Office Action dated 11 January 2005

It is believed that the subject Patent Application has now been placed fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

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